

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 123 - SB 267**

March 9, 2019

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Extends police powers and the authority to carry a pistol or sidearm to salaried county fire investigators within the scope of arson or suspected arson investigations in their respective jurisdictions.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase Local Expenditures - \$13,000/One-Time\*  
\$11,900/Recurring\***

**Assumptions:**

- Salaried county fire investigators are not licensed through the state Division of Fire Prevention. Based on population estimates provided by the United States Census Bureau compared with known salaried county fire investigator positions, it is estimated there are 26 investigators statewide.
- It is presumed that salaried county investigators will participate in the eight hours of annual firearm training currently required of both state and municipal investigators.
- It is presumed that county fire departments would not have in-house firearm training and would contract the annual training through local law enforcement.
- Based on an average cost of firearm training through local law enforcement, a mandatory recurring increase in local expenditures for county fire departments is estimated to be \$11,856 [(\$57 hourly salary and benefits x 8 hour training) x 26 investigators].
- Training costs incurred by the fire departments would result in an increase in revenue for the local law enforcement providing the training; however, local law enforcement is assumed to expend this revenue to pay individuals performing the training. Any net impact to local law enforcement is estimated to be not significant.
- Firearms distribution is estimated to cost \$500 per unit for a total one-time mandatory increase in local expenditures of \$13,000 (26 x \$500).
- Any increase in the number of handgun carry permits is estimated to be not significant.
- The majority of counties in Tennessee participate in the self-insured Local Government Insurance Pool; liability insurance rates or premiums within self-insured or third party policies are not anticipated to increase by a significant amount for the employing departments of the investigators.

*\*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/agr